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TOR181709Z JUN 76 DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY 31350

S E C R E T 181616Z JUN 76 STAFF

CITE [] 31350TO: PRIORITY DIRECTOR INFO PRIORITY []

1. ON 17 JUNE, WHEN [] WAS DISCUSSING POSSIBLE EXPOSURES OF BKHERALD WITH [] LATTER IN RETURN ASKED IF WE COULD HELP HIM CHECK OUT SOMETHING ON "FREE COSSACKIA" WHICH HAD BEEN BROUGHT TO HIS ATTENTION BY VASILIIY N. OKULOV, SECURITY OFFICER OF THE SOVIET MISSION IN GENEVA. THE FOLLOWING MAY NOT BE PUBLIC, AND WE DEFER TO HQS FOR ANY DISSEM VALUE, BUT PRESENT IT AS AN OPS MATTER WHEREIN HQS MAY FIND IT USEFUL TO BE FORWARD-LEANING AT THIS PARTICULAR POINT IN HISTORY TO TRY ANSWERING LSDENTER/5'S REQUEST FOR TRACES. WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO KNOW WHAT IT IS ALL ABOUT.

2. ON 17 JUNE, VASILY N. OKULOV VISITED THE GENEVA POLITICAL AND SECURITY POLICE TO PRESENT A COMPLAINT ABOUT INTIMIDATION OF A NUMBER OF SOVIETS IN THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA. OKULOV STATED THAT APPROXIMATELY THIRTY SOVIET OFFICIALS CURRENTLY ON ASSIGNMENT IN VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN GENEVA, (THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION (ITU);

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INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION (ILO); THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO) AND THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE GENEVA), HAD RECEIVED IDENTICAL XEROX-MACHINE COPY LETTERS FROM THE "FREE COSSACKIA" (OKO) AND THREE RELATED SELF-STYLED LIBERATION MOVEMENTS FOR EASTERN EUROPE WARNING THESE SOVIETS OFFICIALS THAT BECAUSE OF THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN SUBVERSION AND ESPIONAGE THEY WERE IN SERIOUS DANGER IN WESTERN EUROPE. THE LETTERS WENT ON TO OFFER THE SOVIET OFFICIALS TWO CHOICES TO AVOID DANGER: EITHER GO BACK HOME TO RUSSIA OR SEND A LETTER INDICATING WILLINGNESS TO DEFECT. IF A DECISION WERE NOT MADE WITHIN SEVEN DAYS OF RECEIPT OF THE LETTER, THE OFFICIALS WERE THREATENED WITH UNFORESEEN DANGER.

3. OKULOV STATED IT WAS HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT SEVERAL REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER EUROPEAN NATIONS ALSO RECEIVED THESE THREATENING LETTERS, WHICH CALLED FOR COLLABORATION OF THE RECIPIENT IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST SOVIET TYRANNY AND CONTROL. OF RUSSIA, POLAND, SLOVAKIA, CROATIA AND OTHER SECTIONS OF EASTERN EUROPE. MR. OKULOV FURNISHED THE POLICE WITH ENVELOPES AND COPIES OF SEVERAL OF THE LETTERS. THEY WERE IDENTICAL IN TEXT EXCEPT THEY WERE MAILED TO INDIVIDUAL SOVIET OFFICIALS. AN INDICATION

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THAT THE AUTHORS OF THE FORM LETTER WERE WORKING WITH SLIGHTLY OUT-OF-DATE LISTS WAS THE INCLUSION OF MR. MIKHAIL PANKIN OF UNCTAD AS ONE OF THE ADDRESSEES. (PANKIN LEFT HIS UNCTAD POST TO RETURN TO MOSCOW ON 12 SEPT. 1975). THE NAMES FOLLOWED THE FRENCH VERSION OF THE SPELLING OF RUSSIAN NAMES RATHER THAN ENGLISH. THE LETTERHEAD FOR THE FORM LETTERS WAS "FREE COSSACKIA, BOX 1095, GRAND CENTRAL STATION, P.O. NEW YORK, NEW YORK, 10017." ALL OF THE LETTER SAMPLES WHICH MR. OKULOV BROUGHT HAD BEEN POSTED FROM ZURICH ON 14 JUNE.

4. THIS COERCIVE PLEA FOR DEFECTION WAS SIGNED BY THE FOLLOWING COSSACK DEFENSE DEPT, FREE COSSACKIA (OKO), CHIEF OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS CLIMENT IVANOVICH OSTAPOV; COMBAT ORGANIZATION FREE POLAND (OB WP), CHIEF OF EUROPEAN REGION, ANATOL KAREWICZ; SLOVAK REVOLUTIONARY ARMY, FREE SLOVAKIA (SRA), CHIEF OF DOMESTIC AFFAIRS, JAKUB KARDOS; CROATIAN LIBERATION ARMY, FREE CROATIA (HOV) CHIEF OF DOMESTIC AFFAIRS, KRESIMIR BEGOVIC.

5. THE GENEVA POLICE OFFICIALS ASKED MR. OKULOV IF HE COULD CONTACT HIS EAST EUROPEAN COLLEAGUES TO FURNISH NAMES OF ANY OF THEIR OFFICIALS WHO HAD BEEN SENT ANY OF THESE THREATENING LETTERS. THEY AGREED TO OKULOV'S REQUEST THAT

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THEY INVESTIGATE THE MATTER.

6. [] ASKED IF [] KNEW OFF-HAND ANYTHING ABOUT THESE ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS. [] CLAIMED TOTAL IGNORANCE OF THEM BUT OFFERED TO CHECK WITH HQS. I ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE BOX 1095 AT GRAND CENTRAL STATION POST OFFICE WAS AN ODD WORDING BUT THAT THIS ALSO WAS A LARGE STATION AND A VERY VAGUE ADDRESS, POSSIBLY FALSE.

7. WE REQUEST ANY TRACES THAT COULD BE FURNISHED TO [] [] WE WOULD INSIST THAT THESE NOT BE FURTHER CONVEYED TO OKULOV. PLEASE ADVISE.

8. FILE1 DEFER, E2 IMPDET

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